

Field Methods: Pre/Post Test

1. Which method of dressing would provide the best protection from animal borne disease?
☐ hat, shoes, shirt, pants and sun-block
☐ hat, boots, long-sleeved shirt, long pants and gloves
☐ cap, tank-top, sandals and gym-shorts
2. Which provides the best protection from flea and tick bites?
☐ eating garlic and wearing a flea and tick collar
☐ dusting yourself with flea and tick powder from the pet store
☐ dressing properly and using a repellent containing DEET
3. Which is the best reason for using a blind?
☐ so you can see the animals better
☐ so you can observe the animals behaving naturally
☐ so you can observe the animals without disturbing them
☐ all of the above
4. Which would be the best time to observe prairie dogs?
☐ during a blizzard
☐ during a cloud-burst
☐ at night
☐ during the day time
5. What is the purpose of data collection and sampling?
☐ provides information for analysis, hypothesis testing and report writing
☐ provides a hard-copy record of your work for historical purposes
☐ provides information for decision making
☐ all of the above
6. Which is an example of low impact camping?
☐ backpack, dehydrated foods and a light sleeping bag
☐ large tent, ice chest, 40 pounds of T-bones and cola, etc.
☐ RV, TV, CD, satellite dish, porta-potty, etc.
☐ sleeping on a low cot instead of a high one so the impact is less if you fall out of bed while you are camping
7. The purpose of low impact camping is to minimize damage to the environment.
☐ True
☐ False

8. In the desert, one does not have to worry about hail, lightning and flood.
☐ True
☐ False
9. The worst thing you can do if you get lost is panic!
☐ True
☐ False
10. It is always a good idea to tell someone where you are going when you go hiking or leave camp.
☐ True
☐ False
11. Which constellation does one use to find the North Star (Polaris)?
☐ Orion
☐ Taurus
☐ Ursa Major (Big Dipper)
☐ Libra
12. The Sun and a wristwatch with hands, can be used to find which direction?
☐ north
☐ south
☐ east
☐ west
13. Which compass reading is an azimuth?
☐ 267°
☐ N 34° W
☐ S 89° W
☐ both N 34° W and S 89° W
14. Which compass reading is a bearing?
☐ 267°
☐ N 34° W
☐ S 89° W
☐ both N 34° W and S 89° W
15. What direction is usually toward the top of a map?
☐ north
☐ south
☐ east
☐ west
16. Contours on a topographic map indicate lines of equal elevation.
☐ True
☐ False

17. Magnetic north and geographic north are located in the same place.
[] True
[] False
18. Close contours indicate gentle slopes.
[] True
[] False
19. Measuring a bearing or azimuth with the compass lying on the hood of your pickup truck will not affect the reading.
[] True
[] False
20. Topographic maps are used to show the elevation and shape of the terrain in an area.
[] True
[] False

Prairie Dog Field Methods: Pre/Post Test Key

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Field Methods: Outline

Plague protection and precautions

- Proper clothing (show example of proper wear)
- Flea and tick repellent (show example of proper kind)
- Valid tetanus vaccination
- Proper handling of animals

USE PRAIRIE DOG FACTS NOTES

Animal Observation Methods

Visual observation technique

- Observe from blind
- Use binoculars
- Avoid disturbing animals
- Keep records and collect data
 - Prairie dogs (behaviors, food, predators, etc.)
 - Other associated animals

Optimum times to make observations

- Reproductive
- Feeding
- Population
- Other behaviors (Prairie dog-prairie dog, Prairie dog-other animals)

USE PRAIRIE DOG FACTS NOTES AND PRAIRIE DOG BEHAVIORS NOTES

Data collection and sampling technique

- Practice data collection in lab setting, given various scenarios.
- Use training transect located on campus to practice sampling technique.

Low Impact Camping: How and Why

Bring only essential items - minimize weight and space

- Proper wear, rain gear, sleeping bag, tarp, etc.
- Ready-to-eat type foods
- Water and personal hygiene needs
- Small first aid kit
- Equipment and supplies to do fieldwork

- Communication device
- Parent permission and medical release forms

Protect environment

- Minimize damage to soil and plants.
- Minimize impact on animals using the area.
- Maintain the natural integrity as much as possible.

Preparation of dehydrated food for use in the field

- Make jerky, dried fruits and trail mix.
- Plan menu for field work and camping trip.

Weather precautions, navigation and survival

Severe thunderstorm dangers

- Lightning, hail, flash-flood and strong winds
- Precautions and protective measures

Navigation

- Learn location of prominent landmarks.
- Learn where highways, ranches and water are located in relationship to landmarks.
- Learn how to use topographical map and compass.
- Learn how to find directions, using the North Star (Polaris) , Sun and a compass.

Survival behavior

- Do not panic - stay calm and be patient.
- Stay put if you do not know where you are, conserve water and food. (Hopefully, you told someone where you were going.)
- If able, find your way to a highway or ranch.
- Avoid traveling in the hottest part of the day.

Prairie Dogs
Supplement 3.33

Field Methods: Transect Data Sheet

Transect Date				NRCS Photo			Location			Observer(s)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	SUMMARY SYMBOL Bare soil -- Rock R Litter L Plant sp. #	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	PLANT SPECIES NUMBERS 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____ 7. _____ 8. _____ 9. _____ 10. _____ 11. _____ 12. _____ 13. _____ 14. _____ 15. _____ 16. _____ 17. _____ 18. _____ 19. _____ 20. _____	
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40		
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50		
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60		
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70		
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80		
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90		
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100		
BASAL AREA –B (l x w) cm ²											
COVER --C (law) cm ²											

DENSITY = # INDIVIDUALS/ UNIT AREA

Field Methods: Topographical Map Questions
Work Sheet

Map Facts:

- The top of a map usually points north.
- Maps have a scale showing horizontal distances.
- Topographical maps have a figure showing the difference between magnetic north, geographic north and true north (North Star).
- The contour interval indicates the change in height from one contour to the next.
- Contours are lines of equal elevation. Contours are used to show elevation (3rd dimension) on a 2 dimensional map (plane).
- Steep slopes are indicated by close contours and gentle slopes are indicated by contours that are further apart.

Measuring Directions Using the Compass:

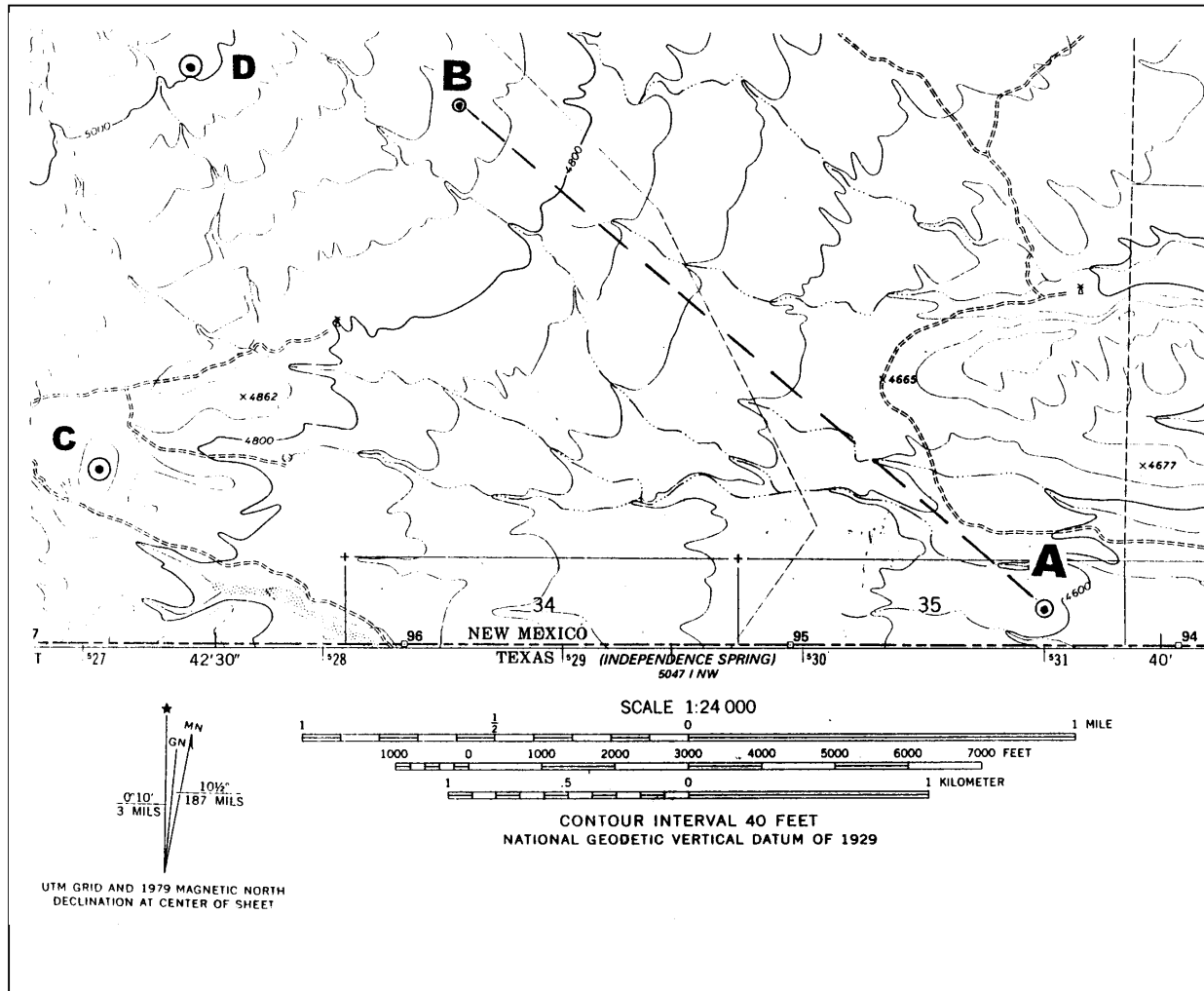
- AZIMUTH is measured from 0 to 360 degrees in a clockwise direction (0° or 360° is magnetic north).
- BEARING is measured from north or south in terms of east and west, for example, N 24°E or S 18°W.

Questions

Use the example done by the instructor for points **C** and **D** to answer the following questions about points **A** and **B**.

1. What is the elevation at point **A**? _____
2. What is the elevation at point **B**? _____
3. What is the distance between **A** and **B**? Feet _____
Kilometers _____ Miles _____
4. What is the difference in elevation between **A** and **B**? _____
5. What is the bearing from **A** to **B**? _____
6. What is the azimuth from **A** to **B**? _____
7. What is the bearing from **B** to **A**? _____
8. What is the azimuth from **B** to **A**? _____

Field Methods: Topographical Map
Work Sheet



Field Methods: Prairie Dog Behavior Checklist

Location _____ Date _____

Observer(s) _____ Natural or Captive (circle)

Time _____ Weather (temp, wind, etc.) _____

Other information _____

Communication

Check appropriate column for each behavior.

Communication Behavior

	Observed	Not Observed
Alarm Bark		
Tail Flicking		
Reaction to Alarm Bark		
All-Clear Call		
Teeth Chattering		
Scream		

Intraspecific Contacts

Mouth Contact (kiss)		
Anal gland sniffing		
Grooming		
Proximity (closeness)		
Sunning, stretching or playing (describe activity, number, ages, etc.)		

Reaction to Associated Animals

Describe behavior and list specific kind of animal involved.

Humans	
Birds	
Reptiles	
Insects	
Small Mammals	
Livestock	
Large Mammals (herbivores)	
Predators	
Reaction to Observer(s)	

Daily Routine and Feeding Data Sheet

Time Above Ground AM _____ PM _____

Time Span Feeding AM _____ PM _____

Note behaviors such as reproductive, disbanding, play, aggression, etc.

List number of individuals by age (adult, juvenile, pup) and sex.

List kinds of plants and insects used for food by prairie dogs.

Behaviors

Numbers (Individuals and Populations)	Sex	Age

Plants and Insects Used for Food